During the period, while diesel was imported by the private parties for their own consumption, the imports of naphtha took place on account of reasons such as logistical constraints in getting domestic product, price advantage of imported product *vis-a-vis* domestic product, requirement of product with specific technical specifications, etc.

Demand and production of petroleum products

†2103. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand of petrol, diesel, natural gas, LPG, naphtha is going down as compared to their production;

(b) if not, the assessment of their demand and production during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 and during the last six months of 2002-2003; and

(c) the quantity of the extra production of these products exported at the end of the year alongwith their prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (d) The details of demand and production of petrol, diesel, LPG and naphtha are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). As regards natural gas, the production of the same during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (April' 02-January '03) has been as follows:

2000-2001	2001-02	(Fig. in BCM*) April '02-January '03 (provisional)
29.48	29.71	26.07

*BCM-Million Cubic Metres.

There is a large gap between demand and supply of natural gas. As against the current allocation of 120 million metric standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD) of natural gas, the current supply is about 65 MMSCMD.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The quantities of petrol, diesel and naphtha exported during the period April-September 2002 and average price realized for the same are as under:

	Quantity (MMT*)	Average (Rs./MT)
Petrol	1.183	12,071
Diesel	1.482	10,013
Naphtha	1.385	10,859

*MMT million metric tonnes.

Statement

Details of product-wise demand and production of petroleum products during the period 2000-2001, 2001-02 and April, September 2002:

(Figs in MMT)

Products	2000-2001		2001-02		April-September 2002	
	Demand	Production	Demand	Production	Demand	Production
LPG	7.016	6.149	7.728	6.992	4.005	3.606
Petrol	6.613	8.068	7.011	9.702	3.838	5.153
Naphtha/ NGL	11.680	11.486	11.755	10.843	5.799	5.497
Diesel	37.958	39.048	36.546	39.444	18.282	20.065

Escalation in cost of Sakhalin Gas Project

2104. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sudden escalation in the project cost of Sakhalin Oilfield exploaration being undertaking by ONGC Videsh Ltd.;

(b) whether OVL's share of investment in the Russian oilfield will now overshoot its original investment of $ 1.74 billion by about $ 1 billion;

(c) whether ONGC's investment advisors had deliberately underplayed the element of possible escalation while getting the original investment fund approval for $ 1.74 billion; and